

IDW

56

COVER A

TM

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



STANLEY • GRAHAM

SEGA®



STORY & ART
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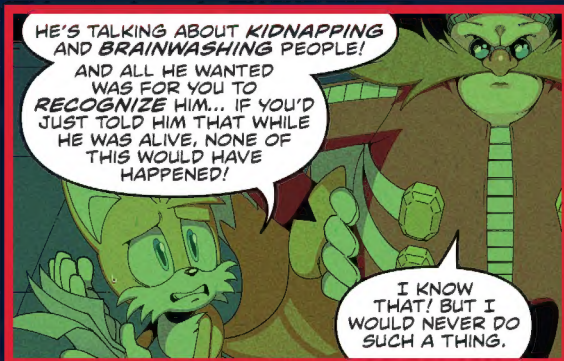
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Ted Adams and Robbie Robbins, IDW Founders

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STORY SO FAR





SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

The Blue Blur.
Fastest thing alive.



MILES "TAILS" PROWER

Tech-Savvy Sidekick.
High-flying genius.



DR. EGGMAN

Mad Genius.
Egg enthusiast.



METAL SONIC

Loyal Minion.
Mechanical menace.



SURGE THE TENREC

The Mean Green.
Roguish speedster.

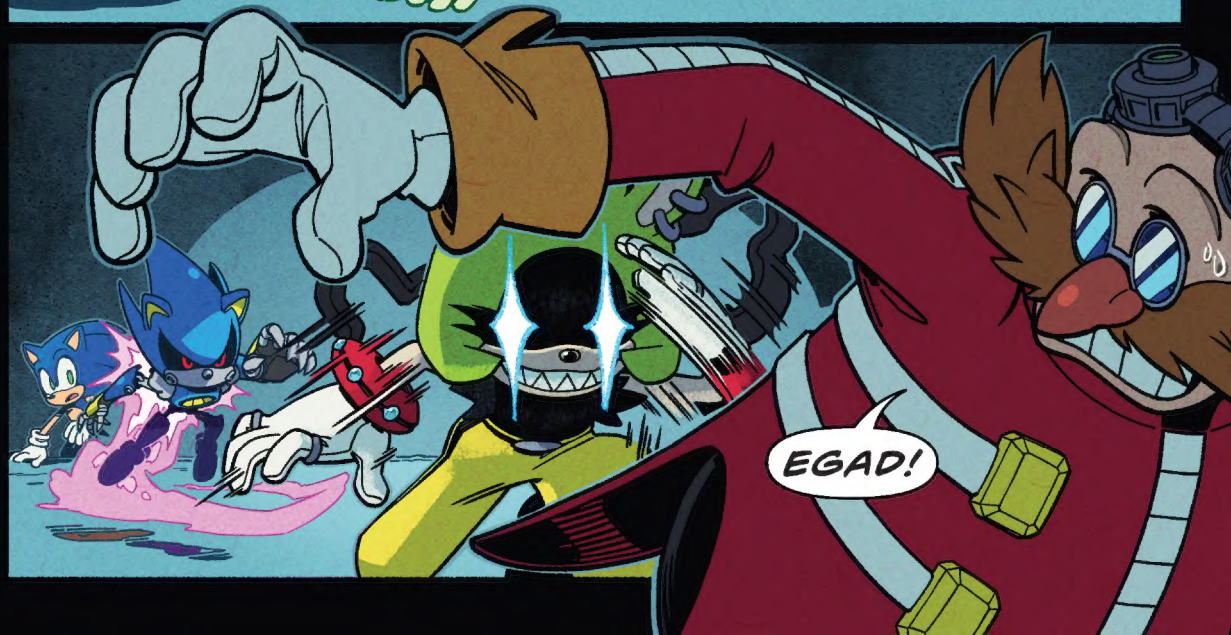
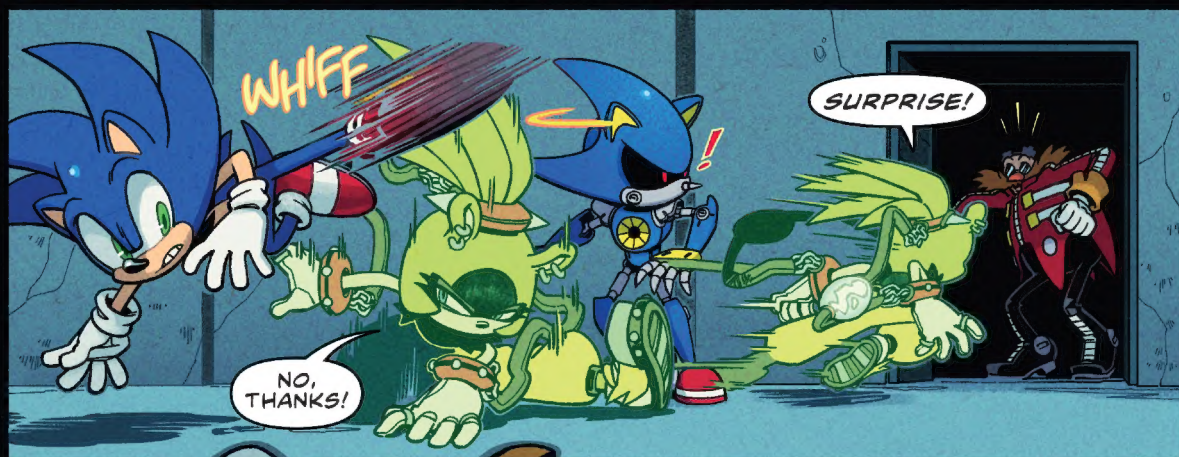


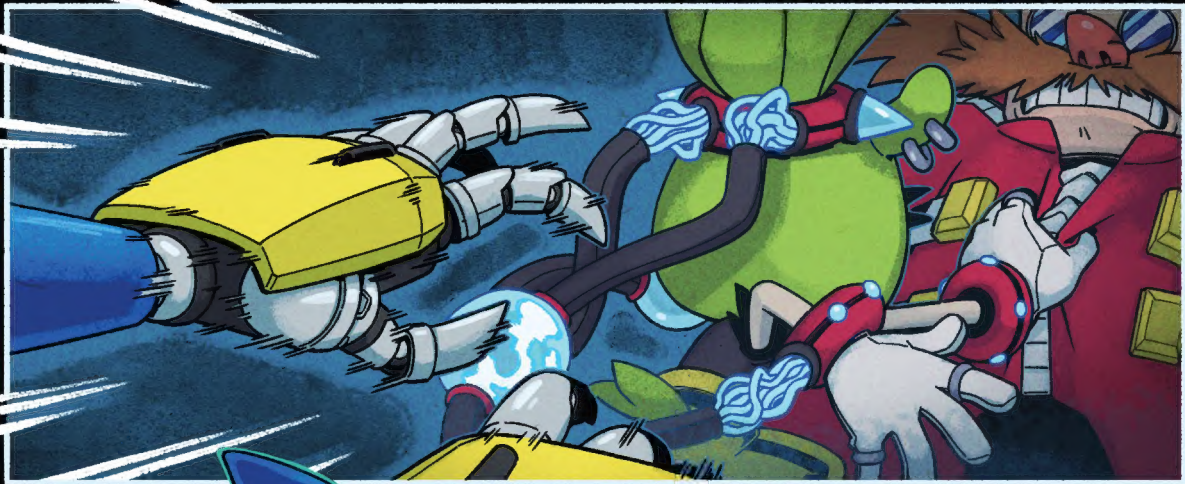
KITSUNAMI "KIT" THE FENNEC

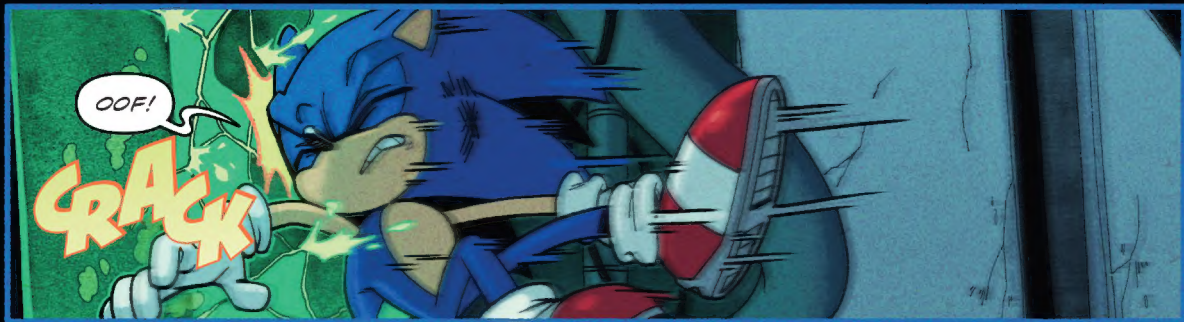
Sorrowful Sidekick.
High-flying hydromancer.

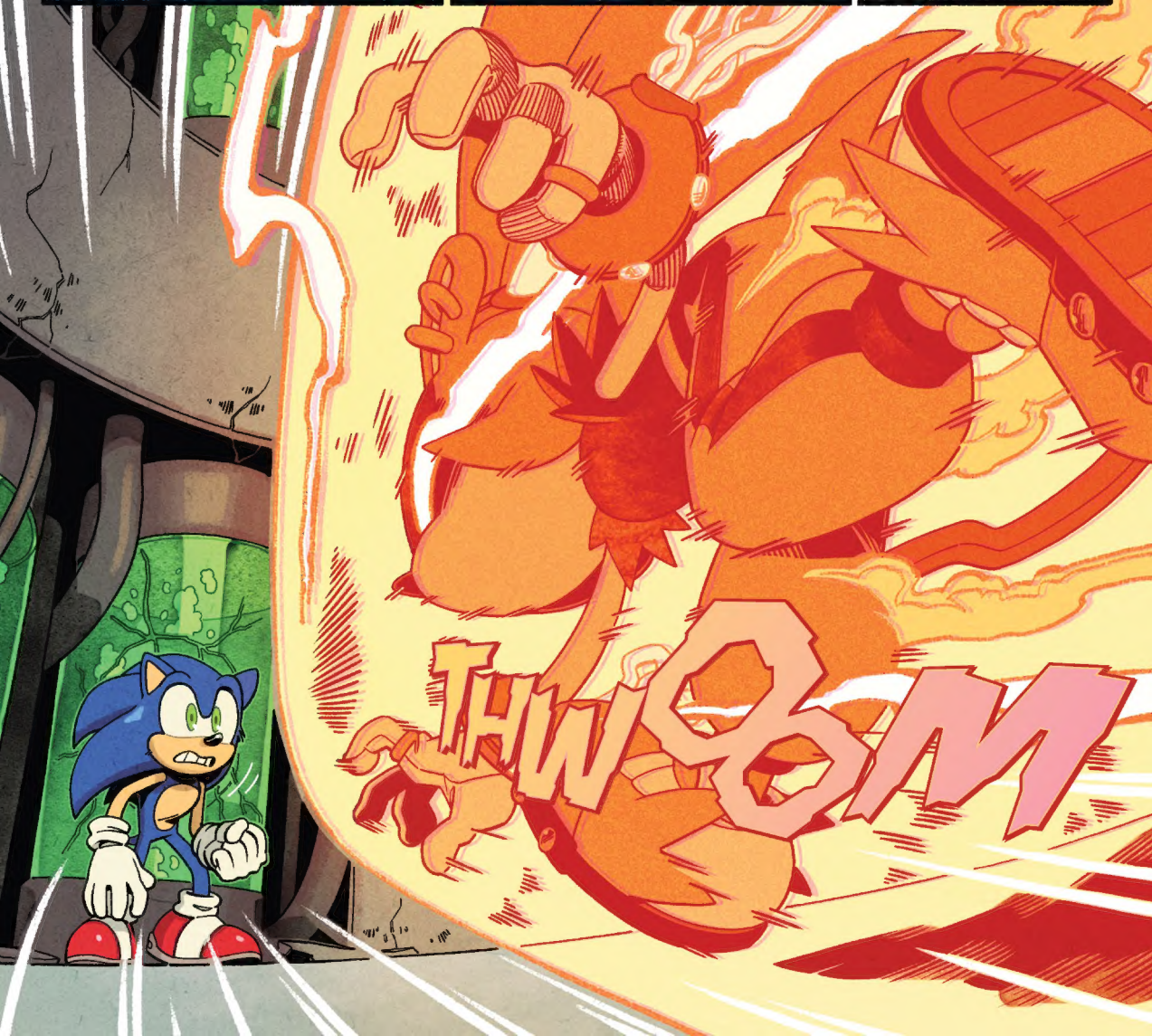




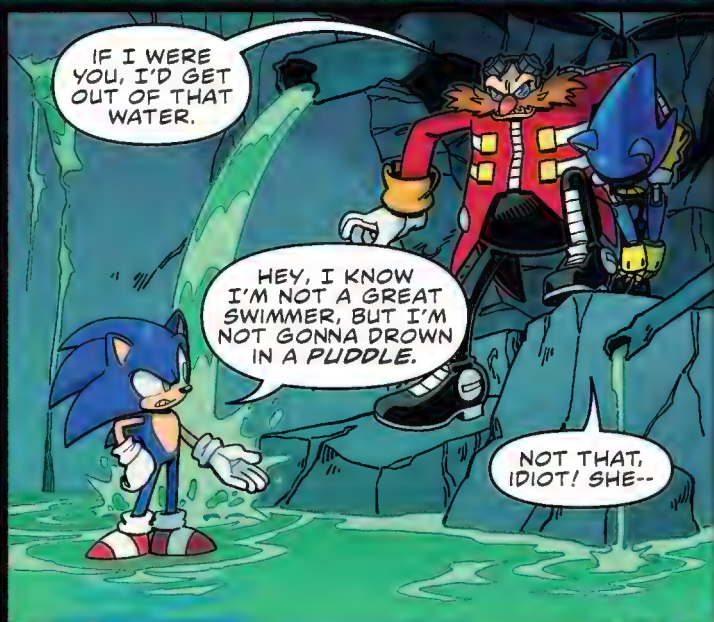












YOUR
SENSE OF SELF-
PRESERVATION
IS *TRULY*
EMBARRASSING,
RODENT.

THE
DYNAMO
CAGE IS GOING
TO OVERLOAD
ANY MINUTE
NOW WITH HOW
SHE'S USING
IT.

KEEP HER
BUSY, AND DON'T
LOSE BEFORE I'VE
GOT METAL
FIXED!

JUST
YOU AND
ME NOW...

LOOK,
SURGE...

...I THINK WE
MAYBE GOT OFF
ON THE WRONG
FOOT.

Y'KNOW
WHAT?
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

MY FOOT
SHOULD BE
ON YOUR
THROAT!

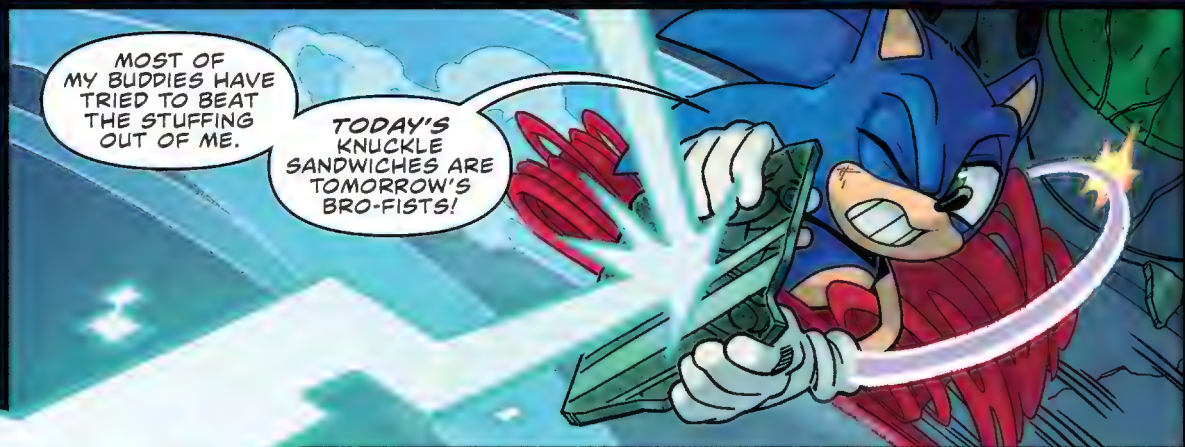




WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOU GUYS WAS
SERIOUSLY HEINOUS.
I GET THAT NOW.



YOU THINK
THAT MAKES
IT BETTER?
THAT WE'LL BE
FRIENDS?



MOST OF
MY BUDDIES HAVE
TRIED TO BEAT
THE STUFFING
OUT OF ME.

TODAY'S
KNUCKLE
SANDWICHES ARE
TOMORROW'S
BRO-FISTS!



I DON'T
WANT YOUR
PITY OR YOUR
FRIENDSHIP...

...I
WANT YOU
GONE!



BUT **WHY?**
STARLINE'S
NOT HERE TO
MAKE YOU DO
ANYTHING!

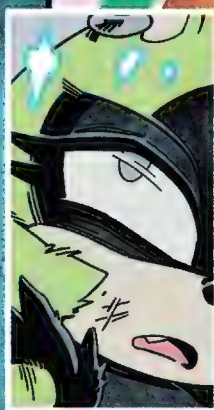


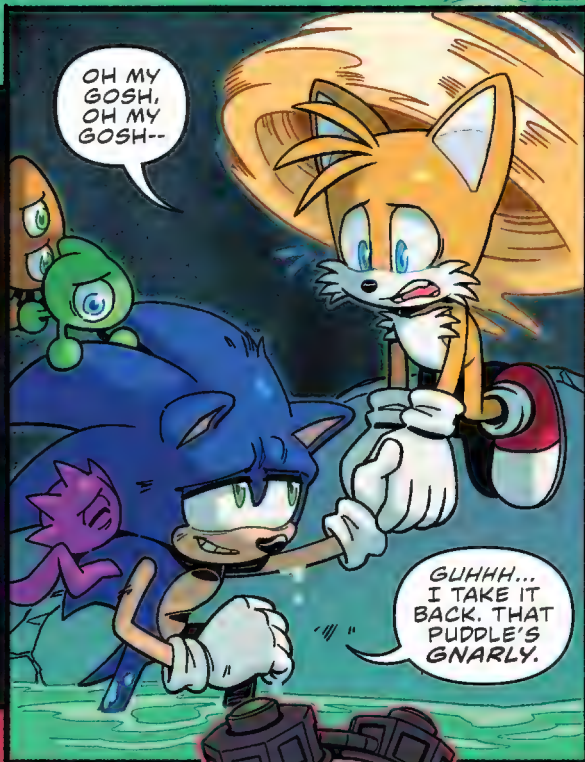
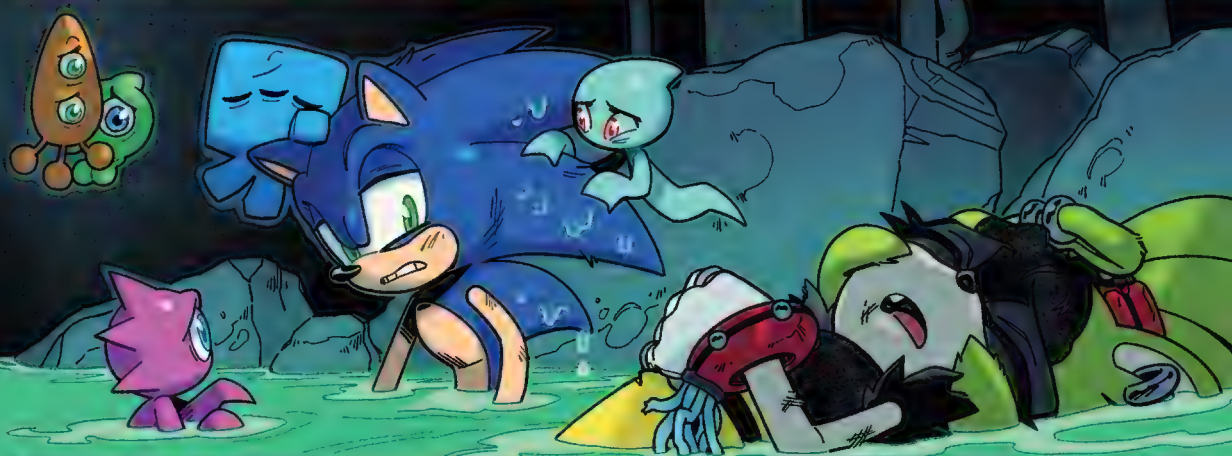
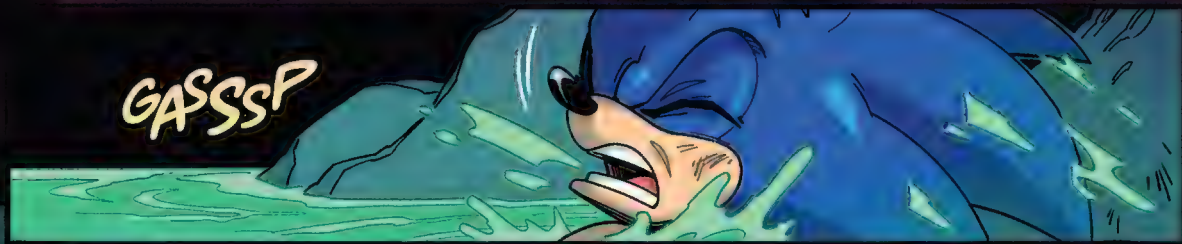
FREEDOM
IS RIGHT
THERE,
WAITING FOR
YOU. JUST
TAKE IT!



...
I
CAN'T.







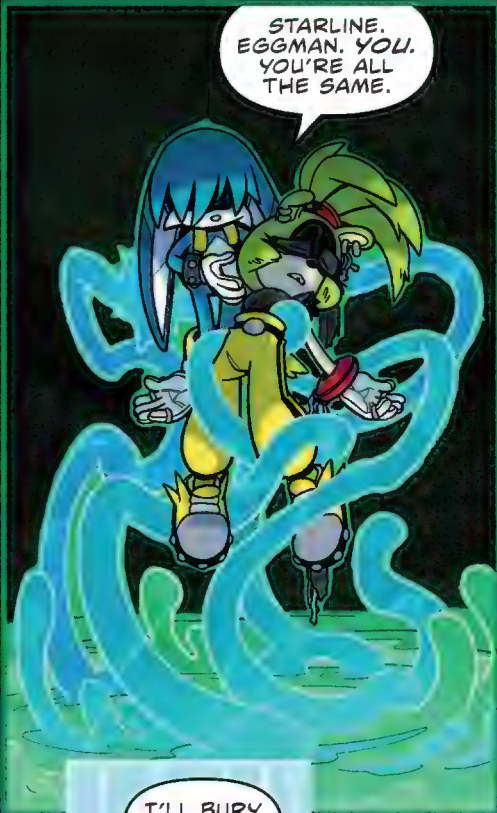
YOU
CHEATER...

THIS WASN'T
THE DEAL,
EGGMAN!

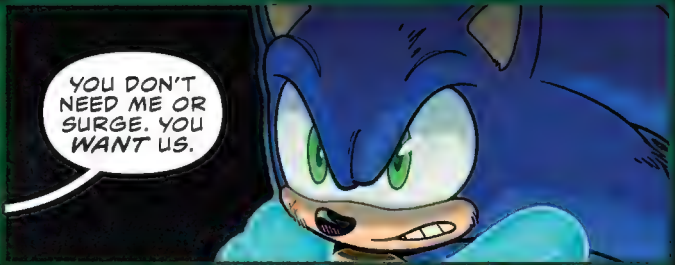
OH PLEASE,
LIKE YOU
WERE GOING
TO HOLD UP
YOUR END OF
THE BARGAIN.

SPA-
WHACK







STARLINE.
EGGMAN. YOU.
YOU'RE ALL
THE SAME.




YOU DON'T
NEED ME OR
SURGE. YOU
WANT US.



ALL THAT
MATTERS IS
WHAT WE CAN
DO, HOW YOU
CAN CHANGE US.
SO YOU CAN
PROVE THAT
YOUR WAY IS
RIGHT.




I'M GOING
WHERE I'M
NEEDED, AND
THAT'S WITH
SURGE.



I'LL BURY
YOU ALL
HERE...

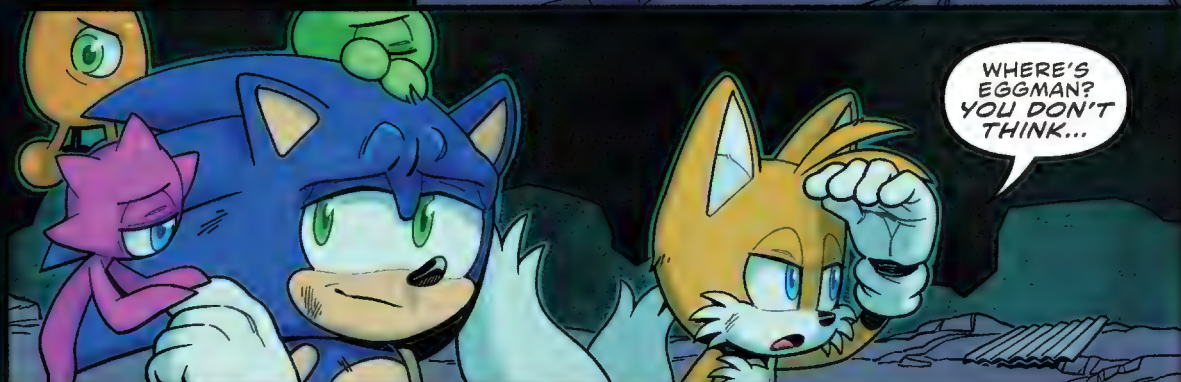


CRUNCH



...ALONG
WITH OUR
PAST.







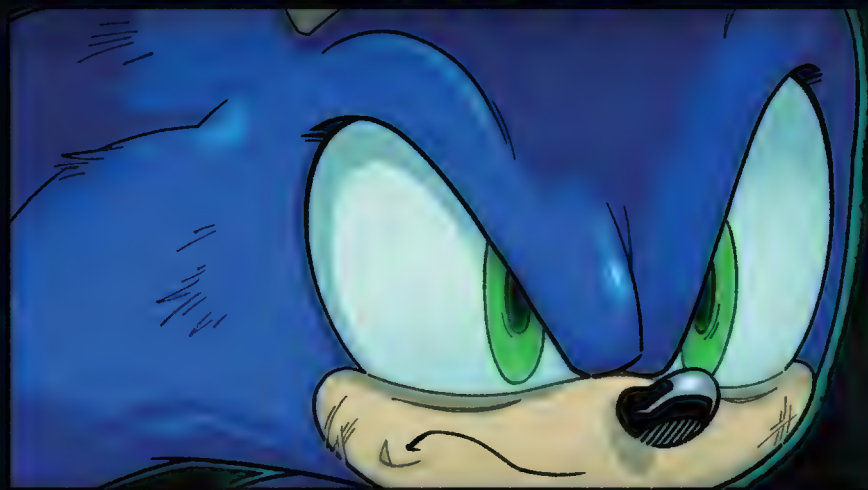
WELL, THAT WAS A WASTE OF TIME...

METAL, CALL AHEAD TO THE EGGPERIAL CITY. I WANT A TRANSPORT, A SNACK, AND HOT BATH WAITING FOR ME WHEN WE GET HOME.



I HAVE SOME IMPORTANT SULKING TO D-- OH.

WHAT DO YOU SAY WE KEEP THAT TRUCE GOING, EH?



...



FINE...WE NEED TO GET THE WISPS BACK ANYWAY.



NEXT TIME, EGGMAN.

NEXT TIME: RETURN TO THE EGGPERIAL CITY!



NEXT MONTH



SONIC

LETTERS SQUAD

Hello, Sonic Squad! I hope that's the last of Surge and Kit we see for a while... They're bad news! Thank you for joining Evan Stanley, Reggie Grabam, and Shawn Lee for issue #56! Now, let's check out your letters and art!



Dear Sonic Team,

Hi, my name is Meredith, and I have been a fan of Sonic since I was 4 years old. My dad has loved it ever since the first game came out. The first game I played would be *Sonic Mania* that came out when I was 7, and I still play it. From there, I bought a couple other of the games, played the old ones on my dad's Genesis, and then I found the comics. The first one I read was the one where Sonic and his friends had just defeated the Metal Virus and were having a party at Tangle's place. That's when I was introduced to Whisper, and I immediately fell in love with her. I then read the series from the beginning and then read the *Imposter Syndrome* series. I also loved Surge and started making art of all the fantastic characters. I have a Pixilart account, and I make art of them there, too. I was terrified when I looked at the cover art for issue #53, but when I read it, everyone was perfectly okay. I have a couple of questions. 1. Was the Metal Virus based on Covid? 2. Will any of the IDW exclusive characters like Tangle and Whisper be in any of the movies? And finally, I would love to see Tangle or Whisper in a licensed SEGA game (for a console). Will that ever happen? (P.S. In one of the *Trial by Fire* issues, I figured out when Tails was talking about the AGES game it was really SEGA backward.)

Thank you so much for making these comics.

Meredith

Dear Meredith,

I love that your dad shared his love of Sonic with you, and now you're a fan. I hope y'all get the chance to play Frontiers together! And sorry to have given you a scare with the #53 cover, we like to keep readers on their toes! Haha!

To answer some of your questions... No, the Metal Virus was not based on Covid. That arc was coming to an end when everything shut down in March of 2020, so it was more of an unfortunate coincidence. Either that or Ian Flynn can see into the future...

Tangle and Whisper will not be in the movies as far as we know. But the characters are



owned by Sega and they can do whatever they like with them. The more that fans show their love for IDW original characters, the more Sega is inclined to include them on merch, in games, and in other media! No spoilers, but if you keep your ears open while playing Frontiers, there might be a little easter egg for Tangle fans.

Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them "OKAY TO PRINT"! And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, Tangle, Whisper, and [REDACTED] make their return!

Thank you for your letter and art! Stay cool!





ART JAMAL PEPPERS



ART THOMAS ROTH LISBERGER **COLORS VALENTINA PINTO**



ART NATHALIE FOURDRAINE